

What is claimed is:

1. A method of reducing cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zveg3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, wherein the zveg3 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of anti-zveg3 antibodies, mitogenically inactive receptor-binding zveg3 variant polypeptides, and inhibitory polynucleotides, in an amount sufficient to reduce cell proliferation or extracellular matrix production.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein proliferation of mesangial, endothelial, smooth muscle, fibroblast, osteoblast, osteoclast, stellate, or interstitial cells is reduced.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein extracellular matrix production is reduced.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of the liver.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of the kidney.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is suffering from a fibroproliferative disorder of bone.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the zveg3 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of anti-zveg3 antibodies and inhibitory polynucleotides.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the antagonist is an anti-zveg3 antibody.
9. The method of claim 8 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
10. The method of claim 7 wherein the antagonist is selected from the group consisting of antisense polynucleotides, ribozyme-encoding polynucleotides, and external guide sequence-encoding polynucleotides.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the fibrosis is liver fibrosis.

14. The method of ~~claim 11~~ wherein the antagonist is an anti-zveg3

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein the antagonist is selected from the group consisting of antisense polynucleotides, ribozyme-encoding polynucleotides, and external guide sequence-encoding polynucleotides.

17. A method of reducing stellate cell activation in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a composition comprising a zveg3 antagonist in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable delivery vehicle, wherein the zveg3 antagonist is selected from the group consisting of anti-zveg3 antibodies, mitogenically inactive receptor-binding zveg3 variant polypeptides, and inhibitory polynucleotides, in an amount sufficient to reduce stellate cell activation.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the stellate cells are liver stellate cells.

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